

What is claimed is:

1. A figure selection method of selecting a figure formed by a plurality of figure elements, comprising:
5 retrieving figure elements adjacent to a designated figure element.
2. The figure selection method according to claim 1 wherein said retrieving retrieves figure elements
10 in a neighborhood of the designated figure element.
3. The figure selection method according to claim 1 wherein said retrieving further retrieves figure elements adjacent to the retrieved figure elements.
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4. The figure selection method according to claim 3 wherein said retrieving performs a retrieval process a predetermined number of times.
- 20 5. The figure selection method according to claim 1 further comprising:
 displaying the figure elements retrieved by said retrieving in a style different from that of other figure elements.

6. A figure selection device selecting a figure formed by a plurality of figure elements, comprising:

a figure element designation unit designating a figure element; and

5 a figure element retrieval unit retrieving a figure element adjacent to the designated figure element.

10 7. The figure selection device according to claim 6 wherein the figure element retrieval unit retrieves a figure element in a neighborhood of the designated figure element.

15 8. The figure selection device according to claim 6 wherein the figure element retrieval unit further retrieves a figure element adjacent to the retrieved figure element.

20 9. The figure selection device according to claim 8 wherein the figure element retrieval unit performs a retrieval process a predetermined number of times.

10. The figure selection device according to claim 6 further comprising:

25 a display unit displaying the figure element

retrieved by the figure element retrieval unit in a style different from that of other figure elements.

11. A computer-readable storage medium storing a figure selection program selecting a figure formed by a plurality of figure elements, comprising:

retrieving a figure element adjacent to a designated figure element.

12. The computer-readable storage medium according to claim 11 wherein said retrieving retrieves a figure element in a neighborhood of the designated figure element.

13. The computer-readable storage medium according to claim 11 wherein said retrieving further retrieves a figure element adjacent to the retrieved figure element.

14. The computer-readable storage medium according to claim 13 wherein said retrieving performs a retrieval process at a predetermined number of times.

15. The computer-readable storage medium according to claim 11 further comprising:

